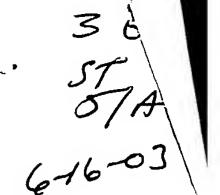
RNES & THO NBURG

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group:

3613

Confirmation No.:

Application No.:

10/074,599

Invention:

ROPE LOCKING DEVICE WITH

AUTOMATIC SAFETY

MECHANISM

Applicant:

Brad E. Hossler

Filed:

February 13, 2002

Attorney -

29947/93100

Docket:

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EL833457912US in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

on May 23, 2002

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

GROUP 360

MAY 3 0 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before preparing the first Office Action for the above captioned case.

AMENDMENT

In the Specification

On page 5, line 32 please add --In a preferred embodiment, grooves 92 are funnel shaped.-after "Y-shaped slots 92."

No other fees are believed due at this time, however, please charge any additional deficiencies or credit any overpayments to deposit account number 10-0435 with reference to our attorney docket number (29947/93100).

Respectfully submitted,

Alice O. Martin

Registration No. 35,601

May 23, 2002 CHDS01 AOM 133026v1

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